September 24, 2003 Contact: Eric Waidmann 530/889-4145

For Immediate Release NEWS RELEASE

PROPERTY TAX BILLS HAVE BEEN MAILED

Placer County Treasurer-Tax Collector Jenine Windeshausen announced that the property tax bills for the 2003-2004 fiscal year have been mailed. Windeshausen indicated that there are 134,483 tax bills for taxes and voter approved special assessments, and charges totaling \$431.9 million.

The first installment of taxes are due November 1, 2003, and will become delinquent if not paid by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2003; thereafter a 10% penalty will be added. The second installment is due on February 1, 2004, and will become delinquent if not paid by 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, 2004; thereafter a 10% penalty as well as a \$10 cost will be added. Both installments may be paid when the first installment is due. Payments remaining unpaid after July 1st accrue additional penalties at the rate of one and a half percent per month, or eighteen percent annually.

Windeshausen noted that the automated phone system is available 24 hours a day to assist taxpayers. Anyone with a checking account may pay by virtual check over the Internet at www.placer.ca.gov/tax. Mailed payments must be postmarked by the delinquent date to avoid penalties. Payments may also be made in person at the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office, 2976 Richardson Drive, Auburn, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., holidays excepted. For added convenience a drive-up deposit box in the front of the building as well as one in the lobby of her office are also available.

Again, this year the property tax statements will include an insert for voluntary contributions to four Trust Funds. Last year's contributions totaled \$18,872.50, with \$3,593.50 going to the Trust Fund for Animals, \$5,471.00 going to the Open Space and Agricultural Preservation Trust Fund, \$5,408.50 going to the Children's Trust Fund, and \$4,399.50 going to the Library Trust Fund.

#